course they can bring it into account without collecting. It is none of the business of the department.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* I don't want to take the time of the House by another speech. I press the motion to a division.

Motion put and carried

CUT MOTION No. 9

Reduction of School fees in all classes

Mrs. Thankamma N. Menon *(Ernakulam-Women): (To reduce the allotment of Rs. 17,192 for Establishment of the Director by Re. 1. To impress upon Government the urgent necessity of reducing the school fees in all classes).*

സർ, ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെപ്പറ്റി അധികമൊന്നും സംസാരിക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ലെന്നാണ് എനിക്കു തോന്നുന്നതു്. ലോകമഹായുദ്ധം നിമിത്തം ലോകമൊട്ടുക്കു ബാധിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന ക്ഷാമംകൊണ്ടു് ജനങ്ങൾ എത്രത്തോളം കഷ്ടപ്പെടുന്നുണ്ടെന്നു് നമുക്കെല്ലാവർക്കും അറിയാം. യുദ്ധത്തിന്റെ പേരും പറഞ്ഞു് ഭക്ഷണസാധനങ്ങളുടെ വില നിമിഷംപ്രതി വർദ്ധിച്ചുവരുകയാണു്. Luxuries of Life വേണ്ടെന്നു വെക്കുക. എന്നാൽ Bare necessities of Life കൂടാതെ എങ്ങിനെയാണു് ജീവിതം നയിക്കുക. ഇന്നത്തെ പരിതസ്ഥിതി നോക്കുന്നതായാൽ അതു് അസാദ്ധ്യമായിട്ടാണു് തീർന്നിരിക്കുന്നതു്. ഒമ്പതും പത്തും രൂപാ വിലയുണ്ടായിരുന്ന അരിക്കു് ഇപ്പോൾ പതിനേഴും പതിനെട്ടും രൂപാ കൊടുത്താലും കിട്ടുവാൻ പ്രയാസമാണു്. ഇതുപോലെതന്നെ മറ്റു ഭക്ഷണസാധനങ്ങളുടെ വിലയും മുമ്പിലത്തേതിൽനിന്നും മൂന്നു നാലിരട്ടിയായി ഇപ്പോൾ വർദ്ധിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യം വിദ്യാഭ്യാസകാര്യത്തിൽ ഏറ്റവും മുന്നണിയിലാണു് നിൽക്കുന്നതെന്നു് എല്ലാവർക്കും അറിയാവുന്നതാണു്. ഏതു ഗ്രാമീണനും തന്റെ കുട്ടികളെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം ചെയ്യിക്കേണ്ടതു്, അവർക്കു് എത്രതന്നെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടേണ്ടിവന്നാലും, അവരുടെ കടമയും ചുമതലയുമാണെന്നുള്ള ഒരു ചുമതലാബോധം അവരുടെ ഉള്ളിൽ കടന്നുകൂടിയിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് പട്ടിണി കിടന്നിട്ടെങ്കിലും അവരുടെ കുട്ടികൾക്കുള്ള School fees കൊടുക്കുവാൻ അവർ ശ്രമിക്കുന്നു. എന്നാൽ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ഭക്ഷണസാധനങ്ങളുടെ വില വർദ്ധനവുനിമിത്തം പത്തു ദിവസം പട്ടണി കിടന്നാലും കൂടി കുട്ടികളുടെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിനുള്ള സംഖ്യ ഉണ്ടാക്കുവാൻ അവരാൽ സാധിക്കുന്നില്ല. അതു കാരണം അവരുടെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം നിവർത്തൽ ചെയ്യുവാൻ അവർ നിർബ്ബന്ധിതരാകുന്നു. അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള ഒരു ഭയങ്കരമായ ഘട്ടം വരുന്നതിനുമുമ്പുതന്നെ ഗവൺമെണ്ടു് ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ വേണ്ടതരത്തിൽ പ്രവൃത്തിക്കണമെന്നു് ഞാൻ അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു. അതിനു വിദ്യാർത്ഥികളുടെ ഫീസ്സു് ഇളവുചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണു് ഗവൺമെണ്ടിന്റെ ചുമതല. വിദ്യാർത്ഥികളായ ധനവാന്മാരുടെ കുട്ടികൾക്കു് ഫീസ്സു് ഇളവുചെയ്തു കൊടുക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യമില്ലെന്നു് ഞാൻ ഗവൺമെണ്ടിന്റെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽപ്പെടുത്തുന്നു. അരിക്കു പത്തല്ല, പതിനഞ്ചല്ല, അമ്പതുറുപ്പിക വില വന്നാലും അവർ പട്ടിണി കിടക്കുകയില്ല. അവർ സമ്പാദിക്കുന്ന പണത്തിൽനിന്നും സ്വല്പം ഒരു കുറവുവരുമെന്നല്ലാതെ അവർക്കു് ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടേണ്ടിവരുകയില്ല. എന്നാൽ സാധുക്കളുടെ നില നേരെമറിച്ചാണു്. ഗവൺമെണ്ടു് സർവ്വീസ്സിലുള്ള പത്തും, പതിനഞ്ചും, ഇരുപതും ഉറുപ്പിക ശമ്പളം വാങ്ങുന്ന ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ അവരുടെ കുട്ടികളെ പഠിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനു് ഇപ്പോൾ വളരെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടനുഭവിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. അനുദ്യോഗസ്ഥപക്ഷത്തിൽനിന്നു് ഇങ്ങിനെ ഒരു ഉപക്ഷേപം കൊണ്ടുവരുവാൻ ഇടകൊടുക്കാതെതന്നെ ഗവൺമെണ്ടു് ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധവെക്കേണ്ടതായിരുന്നു. ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവൺമെണ്ടിൽനിന്നും ഗ്രാറ്റുവിറ്റി അലവൻസായി ഇപ്പോൾ താഴ്ന്നതരം ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർക്കു് കൊടുത്തുവരുന്നുണ്ടു്. അതുപോലെയുള്ള ഒരു അനുഭാവം ഈ വിഷയത്തിലും ഗവൺമെണ്ടു് കാണിക്കണം. ഒരുപക്ഷേ എഡ്യുക്കേഷൻ മെമ്പർ പറയുമായിരിക്കും ഇങ്ങിനെ ഫീസ്സു് ഇളവുചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിലേക്കുള്ള വരവു് ചുരുങ്ങിപ്പോകുമെന്നു്. അതിനു് മറ്റു ചിലവഴികിലൂടെ ഗവൺമെണ്ടിലേക്കു് മുതൽക്കൂട്ടുണ്ടാകുന്ന മാർഗ്ഗം ഞാൻ കാണിച്ചുകൊടുക്കാം. ഉയർന്തരം ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ ശമ്പളം വെട്ടിക്കുറക്കുക. അവർക്കു് ശമ്പളത്തിനുപുറമെ പലതരം പേരും പറഞ്ഞു് കൊടുത്തുവരുന്ന അലവൻസ്സുകളും നിവർത്തൽചെയ്യുക. അതുപോലെയുള്ള മറ്റു പലതരം അനാവശ്യച്ചിലവുകളൊക്കെ നിവർത്തിക്കുക. എന്നാൽ ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനു് പണസംബന്ധമായി യാതൊരു ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടും വരുന്നതല്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവൺമെണ്ടു് പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധിക്കണമെന്നും ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട സഭ ഇതിനെ അനുകൂലിക്കണമെന്നും അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു് ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം ഇവിടെ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

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Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)* : Sir, I have taken a lesson from the division on the last cut motion. The Hon'ble Mover of the cut motion when he got a second chance, did not want to speak and that he is going to press it for a division. And I know that as it is not of much use making a speech in advance as to what the Government has been doing. I wish only to place before the House for its earnest consideration one or two points which I feel is worthy of note. In the first place, recommendations of this nature, Sir, when they come up for consideration of a House of the standing and dignity of our Legislature, they are not to be viewed as if they would be viewed in any ordinary public meeting which simply passes certain resolutions quite irrespective of what is going to be the result.

On the one hand, Sir, Government are asked to provide additional facilities which cost a lot of money and at the same time, Government are directed to forego its only source of revenue. We have had cut motions the effect of which would have been to compel Government to incur additional expenditure to a considerable extent and if this cut motion is accepted, the result of this would be that Government will have to surrender revenues to the extent of a lakh and fifty thousand rupees. While it is true that the difficulties of parents have certainly increased due to the rise in the cost of living consequent on the world-wide war. It is also true that the income of the average private gentleman of the upper and the middle class has also increased due to the sharp increase in the prices of produce. It is very difficult, of course, in the case of low paid servants who have no private means of income beyond their wages; but even they have been accorded by Government some rise in wages. I do not therefore think that it would be fair on the part of any responsible House to ask in the same breath that Government should incur additional expenditure on certain amenities of life, and at the same time demand that they should give up certain sources of revenue.

Now, to come to another point which I think is very relevant to this issue. What is the number of pupils in fee-paying or fee-levying schools, and what is the proportion of that number to the number of pupils receiving effective instruction in all our schools? What are the schools which are going to affect the education of the masses? Sir, I contend that the elementary schools constitute the sum total of the education that the masses receive in the State and those who send up their children to secondary schools are not the absolute poor. They are the middle classes. Poor as they certainly are, manifold their commitments, and numerous the ways of their income, they certainly have just enough with sufficient economy to meet the charges of education of their children, in normal-sized families. If Government had refused concession to the veriest poor who are attending the elementary schools, I can understand that there is a reasonable case made out against the policy of the Government.

Now, take the case of countries which are foremost in the field of education, which are most democratic. I refer to countries like England. The fees are not fixed by statute there; they are levied by educational institutions and the fees are based upon the expenditure of each educational institution. When the cost of establishment and maintenance of schools goes up, the fees are proportionately raised. Now, why is this done? Because the classes of the community who resort to these schools are not the poor, but the middle classes; and therefore the argument that this is as it were a refusal of all the generosity to the poor loses more than half its force when it is pointed out that it is not the veriest poor who seeks secondary education. It is true that times are hard; it is true that considerable inconvenience has been caused by the upsetting of the normal economy; but it is not true that in spite of the sharp rise in the produce of agriculture and in spite of the considerably appreciable increase in the wages paid to the public servants, the parents are not finding it possible to pay the fees to the school-going children. There are certain communities which probably due to reasons which lie deep very far back in the history of this country, are more or less occupying a backward position economically. They still continue to enjoy the fee concession which they enjoyed previously. It is only with regard to those communities which you cannot, strictly speaking, call backward, economically, or educationally—it is only in the case of communities which at any rate belong to the middle classes that government have refused or going to refuse the reduction of fees payable in the case of secondary education. I think we have a little over 5000 pupils in the Upper Secondary schools and we have got nearly two lakhs of children in all our schools put together. Roughly speaking, we have got about a lakh and 85 thousand students who are studying without any fees and who have no aspiration of coming into secondary schools and whose future is not going to be affected by the vote this House is going to record on this motion.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi)* : May I know, how the Director of Public Instruction came to the figure of 1½ lakhs as the loss the government will be put to?

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Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: I took 33 1/3 per cent and 50 per cent. I just applied the same thing to the case of fees. If you reduce it to half in the case of Lower Secondary Schools, and 1/3 in the case of Upper Secondary Schools, it is I think a fair minimum. It will work up to a lakh and fifty thousand or a lakh and 75 thousand. Our total income comes to 3½ to four lakhs.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu)*: I do not wish it to be taken that the House does not understand all the implications of this motion before it records its vote on this motion. I felt I discerned a note of despair in the speech of the Hon'ble Member for Education when he stated that argument is useless when the members have come to a certain conclusion beforehand. Let me assure him that it is not the case. And, if the members of this House resolve to record their votes in a certain fashion upon the motion, it is after understanding the full implications of that motion *(Hear, hear)*. I want to assure him of that. Let it be first of all understood that this is not a request for the remission of school fees for all times to come. It is only for the duration of the war. It is only for that period, although it is not so stated in the motion. I understand the Hon'ble Lady Member has made it clear in her speech, that it is only for the duration of the war that she want a remission in the rates of school fees for the school-going children. Now, Sir, when an abnormal state of affairs have come into existence on account of the war, I hold that it is legitimate on the part of the representatives of the people to demand that there should be a remission in the fees which they have to pay for the education of their children. When it is proved that their paying capacity has gone down; and the government I think, have no answer to give in the matter if it is also proved that on account of certain circumstances which brought about this situation, their budget figures have shot up, as they themselves have prided when they introduced the budget on the floor of this House. They heve budgeted for an income of 127 lakhs for the coming year. I do not think that were it not for the abnormal state of circumstances which are existing on account of the war, such a large income could have been budgeted for. It is on account of certain abnormal circumstances, excess profits tax, etc., which we can avail of, that such a huge income could be budgeted for. It is equally therefore the duty of the government to give such remissions to their subjects as the necessities of the situation require.

Now, I must concede there is considerable force in the argument of the Member for Education that the masses of the people are getting their education in the vernacular schools where no fees are being levied. But it is not completely correct to say that all these students who go to English schools where fees are being levied are children of the propertied classes. I do not think it is correct. It is also true that on account of the rise in the price of agricultural commodities, the propertied classes in the State stand to gain and that must be the reason why, the Hon'ble Mover of the motion made a statement when she moved the motion that the rich people should be exempted from the benefit of the remission. When she made that statement, I think she referred to those people that is, members of the propertied classes who do not stand to lose on account of the present abnormal circumstances. Therefore, my submission to this House is there is a large majority of people in the State who are very hard hit on account of the abnormal economic situation that has come into being on account of the war. It is also admitted by the Member for Education that the financial commitment involved in the transaction will be only above lakh of rupees or below two lakhs. The budgetary position of the government will allow of this remission being made. The rise in the income of the government is due to the abnormal situation which has caused these poor people the difficulty to pay the usual rate of fees. Therefore I submit before this House that a very clear and convincing case has been made out for a remission of the school fees, at least in the case of children who are not children of the propertied classes in our State. I think when the Department or the government made concessions as a result of the last cyclone, which was considerably smaller even that this huge world cyclone of the war, government has accepted the spirit underlying the motion now placed before the House. I, therefore, think Government must reconsider the attitude which they have now taken and accept the spirit underlying the motion and give some suitable remission in the school fees for the duration of the war. Unless that is done, the large majority of the people in the State will find it very difficult to educate their children—it goes without saying. The very pittance of a war allowance, or dearness allowance, which the government has granted to the people—I am ashamed the Member for Education referred to it—will not be sufficient answer to any such demands made in this direction. Unless such concessions are made in order to alleviate the hardships to which the people are subjected to, the result will be that a large number of our

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children will soon have to go without any education whatsoever, because the economic tendencies are such. The first charge upon their purse will be their food; when even that becomes difficult, what about the education of their children? And, if you do not give them sufficient concession to enable them to educate their children, it will certainly lead to a very sad state of affairs and the proud position which Cochin occupies in matters education throughout India may probably be lost to her. For these reasons, I would very earnestly request the government to accept the motion placed before the House to give some remission at least in the matter of school-fees for the duration of the war.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. കെ. നായർ സർ, വിദ്യാർത്ഥികൾക്ക് ഫീസ്സിളവുചെയ്യ കൊടുക്കണമെന്നുള്ള ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ എതിക്കാനില്ലെങ്കിലും ഇത്രനേരം ഇവിടെ പ്രകടിതമായ അഭിപ്രായങ്ങളിൽ പുറത്തുവരാതെ ഇരുന്നിട്ടുള്ളതും, ഫീസ്സിളവുമൂലം ഉണ്ടാകാനാടിയുള്ളതുമായ ഒരു പ്രത്യേക പരിതസ്ഥിതിയെ ഈ സഭയെ മനസ്സിലാക്കുന്നതിന്നുവേണ്ടിയാണ് ഞാൻ മുതിരുന്നത്. കൊച്ചിയിലെ വിദ്യാലയങ്ങളെ മൂന്നായി തരം തിരിക്കാം. സക്കാർ വിദ്യാലയങ്ങളാണതിലൊന്ന്. സക്കാരിൽനിന്നും സഹായധനം പറ്റുന്നവയാണ് ഇനിയൊരു വിഭാഗം. സഹായധനമില്ലാതെ അംഗീകരണം മാത്രം വാങ്ങി നടത്തിപ്പോരുന്ന ഒരുതരം സ്കൂളുകൾ മൂന്നാമത്തെ വിഭാഗത്തിലുൾപ്പെടുന്നു. ഈ ഒടുവിലത്തെ വിഭാഗം കൊച്ചിയിൽ ആവിർഭവിച്ചതു് ഫ്രീ സ്കൂളാണെന്നു തോന്നുന്നു. ഈ വിഭാഗത്തിന്റെ മാനേജർമാർ സഹായധനമില്ലാതെ സ്കൂൾ നടത്തുവാൻ തയ്യാറായതു സ്കൂൾ ചിലവുകൾക്കാവശ്യമായ വകയിൽ ഏറിയകൂറും കുട്ടികളുടെ ശമ്പളം വഴി കിട്ടുമെന്നുദ്ദേശിച്ചാണു്. ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തിൽ പറയുന്ന ഫീസ്സിളവു് ഗവമ്മെണ്ടനുവദിക്കയാണെങ്കിൽ സഹായധനമില്ലാതെ വിദ്യാലയം നടത്തിപ്പോരുന്ന മാനേജർമാരാണു് വട്ടം കറങ്ങുക. സഹായധനം കൊടുക്കുകയില്ലെന്ന നിശ്ചയത്തിന്മേലാണു് വിദ്യാലയങ്ങൾ അംഗീകരിക്കപ്പെടാറു്. അവർ പ്രതീക്ഷിച്ചിരുന്ന ആയം, ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ ഒരു നയവിശേഷം കൊണ്ടു് കുറയുക, സഹായധനത്തിന്നർഹതയില്ലെന്ന നിലയ്ക്കു് മാറ്റം വരാതിരിക്കുക എന്നിവ ഒത്തുകൂടിയാൽ സ്കൂളുകൾ പൂട്ടിയിടുകയല്ലാതെ ഗത്യന്തരമുണ്ടാകയില്ല. ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്നുവേണ്ടി ഒരു പൈ പോലും ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനെക്കൊണ്ടു ചിലവുചെയ്യിക്കാതെ, ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിന്റെ പ്രഥമവും പ്രധാനവുമായ വിദ്യാവിതരണബാദ്ധ്യതയെ സ്വയം നിർവ്വഹിക്കാനിറങ്ങിയിട്ടുള്ള മാനേജർമാരെ അപകടത്തിലാക്കാതെ വേണം ഫീസ്സിളവു ചെയ്യാൻ. കൊടുങ്കാറ്റനിവാരണാർത്ഥം ഫീസ്സിളവു നൽകിയപ്പോൾ മാനേജർമാക്കു് ശമ്പളത്തിൽ വന്ന കുറവു് ഗവമ്മെണ്ടു് നികത്തുകയാണല്ലൊ ചെയ്യുന്നതു്. അതേ വിധം ഫീസ്സിളവുമൂലം സഹായധനമില്ലാത്ത വിദ്യാലയങ്ങളിൽ കുറവുവരുന്നതുക മാനേജർമാക്കു് കൊടുത്തു് അവരുടെ സേവനൌത്സുക്യത്തെ മാനിക്കണമെന്നാണെനിക്കു് ഗവമ്മെണ്ടിനെ ഉൽബോധിപ്പിക്കാനുള്ളതു്.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: I rise to support this proposition. Everybody knows the truth; but few people have the courage to speak the truth as it is. That is the trouble that we have. We all know that we have got a surplus budget. What does that mean? We all know that we have unspent balances in the treasury. What does that also mean? It means that you have got the money of the people in your hands, taken in a measure that is not commensurate with your expenditure. You have taken at times from the people, not intentionally, but it so happens that the money that you have taken from them has not been spent for them and is accumulated in your hands. What is this accumulation for? For what purpose do you accumulate? For Post-War reconstruction? Let us live during the war, before we come to post-war reconstruction. Therefore the money that you have got accumulated in the treasury from the pockets of the people must be used when an emergency arises for the benefit of the people. *(Hear hear)*. That is the policy that the government should adopt. It is well known to every government servant and to the government itself that the income that the people get—I am speaking of the ordinary people—a great number of them, draw Rs. 20 and below, both in public employment and private employment—peons, servants, commercial hands. It is these people that make more children than the higher paid people *(Laughter)*; and it is their children that go to the schools, both in the primary and the secondary classes. Where are they going to find money. Already foodstuffs, even vegetables have gone up 100 per cent in price. A bag of rice which costs Rs. 8 in former days now costs Rs. 16. Where are they going to find the money to buy this? Under such circumstances, what do we ask? Educate 1½ lakhs of children without school-fees. If you remit, you lose 1½ lakhs—one rupee per student. Your dearness allowance is only Re. 1. So that by the remission that is asked for about 1½ lakhs would be lost and about 1½ lakhs of students are also benefited.

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Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: I say, the Hon'ble Member is wrong. That will be for the education of 4,000 children in secondary schools. The other 1½ lakhs are not going to be affected in any manner.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: Primary education is almost free, excepting the English schools. Only in the English schools, we levy fees. Primary education given to the country in vernacular is absolutely free. Therefore, who are the people to be affected? The secondary, upper secondary and lower secondary, where you have got 1½ lakhs of students. One rupee upon each student is not a great allowance that is being asked for. That is a small reduction and who is affected by it? No one is affected by it. Our Treasury balance will come down by 1½ lakhs. Our surplus budget for the year will be less by 1½ lakhs. Are we asking for any extraordinary concession in these times of dearness, when the ways and means open to the people are contracted. That is why I said that truth is not confessed and truth is not spoken. Therefore I would ask the Hon'ble Member for Education to accept this cut; if not we will press it to a division and strengthen the hands of the government to come to our rescue and say, we are demanding you to remit a portion of our own money. It is not money that is got from outside. And therefore we have got every right to say, reduce this income—budget will still be balanced. I think one of the Hon'ble Members of the other side said he could not admire the government on the surplus budget Surplus budget means, you are taking more money than what is required. If you let go the surplus, you are just spending it for the people themselves. Government must be for the people, and when it is governed by the people of the land, must certainly be for the people. And it is a proposition for the people, and I hope that every member sitting in this House, representing the people, will support a proposition like this during an emergent time. During ordinary times, raise the fees, if you like. Nobody is going to object to it; we will come and support you. Put a proposition and say, you want a certain amount for such and such a purpose. If the proposition is correct, the consequences must be faced, whatever others may say. Whenever a good proposition is brought before the House and money is required it is the duty of the House to find the money and to arrange the government to raise the money by way of taxation, or otherwise as may be open to them at the time. Therefore I have great pleasure in supporting this benevolent proposition brought by a mother who feels for the children of the land; it is not only for her children—perhaps her children can afford to pay—she feels it for the other children. When it comes from a lady, it is a chivalrous duty of the entire House to support this proposition and to carry it out for the benefit of the poor. Everything depends upon education to uplift our men, politically, socially and economically and for that purpose we ask you to spend 1½ lakhs more. Is it a sin on our part? I have great pleasure in supporting the proposition and asking the members of this House also to strongly support it.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: I only wish to make one or two remarks. The Hon'ble Member Mr. P. Govinda Menon, I think, tried to make out that this is in line with the concession which we have already granted after the last cyclone. My point is that the two are very different. In the case of the cyclone havoc, government found that the middle classes have lost their entire money—they lost their homes. Therefore they came forward with the proposal to make reduction in the payment of fees. The point now for consideration is that they are making very decent profits on the produce.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur)*: They have lost most of the trees.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: At any rate, the two are not similar. In one case they have lost everything. In the other case, they are trying, at any rate, to make a fairly decent living.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu)*: The principle is relief in trouble.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: If the appeal is entirely what you call one's generosity, and not merely one's good sense, I have nothing to say. The second is, in spite of this so-called appeal, the fact remains, economically speaking that the persons who are going to bear the burden are bound to bear the additional burden of a lakh and half rupees. It is not the middle-classes, but everyone including the rich—that have to bear this burden. That is why I say this should really be considered as a middle-class measure and not as a poor man's measure. Let there be no doubt on this point. Let it be clearly understood that this is a measure intended to benefit the children of the middle classes who, there is no doubt, have been hard hit and the burden has to be borne by all, including the poor classes. I have nothing more to say.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: Is it not possible for the educational authorities to say, so and so is rich; he is able to pay and he must pay?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: In spite of the positive amendments introduced, for one thing, as the cut motion stands, there is no reference to the poor.

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Mrs. Thankamma N. Menon *(Eranakulam-Women)* : In my speech, I have made it very clear.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)* : So the cut motion is, or should be that the Hon'ble Member wants an appreciable reduction in fees in the case of the poorer classes who are not able to pay fees, and that for the duration of the war.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)* : That is the implication.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)* : Do you want reduction only for the poor ?

Mrs. Thankamma N. Menon *(Ernakulam-Women)* : To those deserving people and for the duration of the war.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)* : Although I am not prepared to accept even that on behalf of the government, I request that the cut motion as it is going to be pressed, may kindly be noted. "for the poor students who are deserving, for the duration of the war". Whatever be the shape, it may kindly be noted.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur)* : May I know whether the poor scholarship exists even now ?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)* : There are a certain number of poor scholarships. I think about a large number gets half-free scholarship.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur)* : So that this amendment will be covered by the existing rules.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)* : Will the Hon'ble Member for Education be pleased to accept if the fees of the ladies be raised a little and that of the gentlemen reduced a little? Ladies have equality of treatment.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)* : I want a clear ruling. For instance, there are certain communities which are already enjoying half-fee concession. Are their fees to be reduced ?

Mrs. Thankamma N. Menon *(Ernakulam-Women)* : Without affecting existing rules.

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)* : I would have credited the system, if I could have understood the cut motion.

Mr. T. P. Poulose *(Kanayannur)* : They are all matters of detail which Government can fix up. Here we suggest a principle and on the basis of which Government may act.

Mr. M. K. Devassy *(Adur)* : May I suggest one thing? This being a cut motion, the views on the cut motion have been already expressed. According to me, no amendment is necessary. Any amendment without proper consideration may spoil the original cut motion.

Mrs. Thankamma N. Menon *(Ernakulam-Women)* : I have made all my points clear. Government also knows that.

Motion put and carried

***Mr. P. Govinda Menon** *(Mulakunnathukavu)* : Sir, will you be pleased to consider cut motions Nos. 10, 11, 12, and 14 together. They all come under the same head.

Deputy President : All those cut motions may be taken together and discussed.

CUT MOTIONS Nos. 10, 11, 12 & 14

Selection of Text books

Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon *(Narakkal)* : *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 17,192 for Establishment of the Director by Re. 1. (The unsatisfactory nature of certain text books prescribed for the next 6 years).*

Mr. C. K. Nayar *(Nemmara)* : *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 17,192 for Education-Direction and Inspection-Establishment of the Director by Re. 1.*

(വസ്തുസ്ഥിതി കഥനങ്ങളിൽ തെറ്റുപറ്റിട്ടില്ലാത്ത പാഠപുസ്തകങ്ങൾ തിരഞ്ഞെടുക്കേണ്ടതിന്റെ ആവശ്യകതയെ ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനെ ഉൽബോധിപ്പിക്കുവാൻ).

Mr. K. S. Panicker *(Ezhuvas-Mukundapuram)* : *To reduce the allotment of Rs. 17,192 for Establishment of the Director by Re. 1.*

(വിദ്യാർത്ഥികൾക്കു തെറ്റില്ലാതെ വായിക്കുന്നതിനുണ്ടാകുന്ന അബദ്ധങ്ങൾ എഴുതി ചേർത്തിട്ടുള്ള പുസ്തകങ്ങൾ പാഠപുസ്തകങ്ങളായി തീരുമാനിച്ചതിന്റെ അനൌചിത്യത്തേയും അനാശാസ്യകതയേയും ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനെ മനസ്സിലാക്കുവാൻ).

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